

Dear Mr. G. — This came by Mr. Hovey from Pillsbury.  
You will see he marks the 2<sup>d</sup> & 3<sup>d</sup> pages for the Liberator.  
It is a racy & keen notice of the Exeter Hall Meeting of the B. & F.  
A. S. Society. — Please keep this carefully & return to me.

Samuel May Jr.  
Boston

Massachusetts.



ms. B.1.6 v.5, p.24

My wife & myself  
in the high  
est terms  
of favor  
friendly & amicably  
I bring you  
best to her.  
allow me  
to write  
with her  
in French.  
say you  
are there.  
for I have  
every all  
my affec-  
tions all  
directed  
now to  
care of  
Mr. Webb.  
He & all  
here are  
well for  
you me  
with a  
good time.

As if you  
see Steph  
at about  
10 P.M.  
Holt  
close  
tell them they  
are most affec-  
tately remember  
you -

Dear Friend May

I do not know but you have just  
cause to complain of me, for not writing  
you more, or often than I can, since com-  
ing to this country - But the truth is, it  
costs me an effort to write a letter worth  
reading; & so in my present state of health,  
it is not often attempted - My own family  
must not be neglected, and then a good  
many letters, [not too many] come to me from  
different persons in this country, & from the  
continent, requiring answers; so that after  
all, no day passes without more or less wrin-  
ting, as much probably as it well for me is  
my present state of health -

My recovery is not very rapid.  
Indeed for a month, I have scarcely improved  
at all - I am well enough to be abroad, to  
do considerable at sight seeing - have a good  
appetite, & sleep pretty well - But my side  
troubles me a good deal. My breathing is  
still somewhat irregular, though on the whole  
rather improving, and thus I have as yet  
great want of regularity & efficiency in the di-  
gestive system - the consequence of <sup>which</sup> a consid-  
erable of my old acquaintances cold feet and  
headache - I think nothing has been lost  
in the last month; and probably little has  
been gained - Paris, with Paris living & sight  
seeing, is not the best resort for invalids -

The last ten days, I have spent in London - The weather for the most part, balance very well,  
<sup>(you know also says that)</sup> and consequently, my time was <sup>very</sup> much oc-  
cupied, & passed very rapidly - One event only was  
however - of sufficient importance to interest you,  
and that was the anniversary of the British and  
Foreign Anti Slavery Society. It was held in Exeter  
Hall on the evening <sup>of</sup> the 22 of last Month, the  
Earl of Shaftesbury in the Chair - The speakers  
advertised were "Rev. Richard Burgess, B. D. of  
Chelsea, the Rev. W. B. Kirkus, B. D., the Rev. S. R.  
Ward from Trinidad, the Revs. Thomas Hounds and  
W<sup>m</sup>. L. Binks, Missionaries from the West Indies;  
Parker Pillsbury <sup>Bdg.</sup> of Boston Mass. U. S. A. and  
Professors W<sup>m</sup>. G. Allen, late of New York Central  
College"

The Hall was not nearly full, and before <sup>on by</sup> nine  
o'clock, many were leaving - The proceedings are  
sparking <sup>so far anti slavey</sup> & generally benevolent criticisms.  
<sup>mischiev</sup> were generally benevolent criticisms.  
What I have even perpetrated, that should have  
subjected me to an invitation to take part in  
them, is more than I can imagine - But so  
it was - I declined peremptorily, on account of  
ill health - but my letter miscarried, and so  
I was announced at a venture - for some  
reason, the old Lecturer had <sup>unfortunately</sup> disappeared within  
the last year or two, and a new one has  
been appointed <sup>inveigled, or seduced,</sup> & from him my invita-  
tion came. I know nothing <sup>understand</sup> of his person-  
ally - But he seems not to ~~know~~ that I  
belong to the Anti Slavey Movement and to  
City, the which is utterly ignorant, or remembers

only to be revised, by those who have made him their  
principal Medium of communication. At the Exe-  
cutive Hall Meeting, the name of the Amico Anti-  
Slavery Society was not mentioned, nor one of  
its friends except J. W. Smith - while the names of  
Chase, Sumner & Dr. Wayland were spoken - of with  
the highest approval. But neither did the  
Secretary in his Report, nor did one of the speakers,  
British or American, make the most distant allu-  
sion to the Am. A. S. Society, its supporters, its news-  
papers, its agents or any of its operations. One of  
the speakers, a Minister from Ohio, said something  
of the Am. Tract Soc. & the Am Bd. of Com. for F.D. Mis-  
sions as having done something to favor Slavery, the  
former by suppressing Anti Slavery sentiments in its  
publications, the latter by admitting slaveholders <sup>with all its A.S. provisions</sup> to the Mis-  
sion Churches. But the ~~British~~<sup>and American</sup> British Baner -  
in its report of the speech, takes good care to leave out  
every word & syllable of this part of it. Most of the speakers  
exhibited an entire ignorance of the whole sub-  
ject for which the meeting professed to be called.  
Not a single speech went to the root of the  
evil. Not one would not have been called tame  
in even a Free Soil Meeting in Massachusetts.  
<sup>The U. S. Reporters do the same but provide the whole speech.</sup>  
George Thompson & Mr. Wells Brown were both  
in town - were both in the meeting, but neither  
was invited or permitted to take any part  
in the transactions of the occasion. <sup>I was glad they were not.</sup> I may be mis-  
taken in my conclusion - I may be wholly disengaged to  
form any judgment in the case - And I am not  
desirous to influence any body's opinion - But I have  
no hesitation in giving it at my own conviction,

that the only real obstacle to the spread of Anti Slavery light & truth on this side the Atlantic, is the British & Foreign Anti Slavery Society, in so far as it has any influence to exert, or power to act on the public mind & heart.]

I have just been looking over what I have written, & have drawn brackets round the last two pages, thinking that perhaps they might be worth a column in the Liberator - You may submit the matter with my most affectionate regards to Mr. Garrison, telling him the reason I do not write more for the Am. Anti-S. paper's as you find it in the first part of this letter - And I am writing so badly to you, as to feel almost ashamed to let you see the pages - But I have had too many proofs of your goodness, not to know that you will give me every indulgence.

I saw but little of the Chapman & Westons - They seemed well & happy, except Socie & she is improving. Mrs. Rossie honored me <sup>the day before</sup> yesterday with a call at my lodgings, & urged me strongly to make her a visit - This I could not do at present. She is full of the Gravity & solemnity, the inspiration of the whole Bible & other Calvinistic doleances, & impresses them with a Master's power - I could scarcely get in a word Eugenie, & indeed did not many times attempt it. Mrs. Follen I have not seen, nor Misses Caroline & Lucie Weston - I am now at Mr. Bishop's, & this moment <sup>he has brought me letters from Miss Estlin & R. D. Webb</sup> the latter is coming over to night to see the Hoveys off, & then go with me & Miss Mattineau. She has strongly invited me in three letters, to make her a good long visit, to be "cheered & merited, by me & my Maids." Geo. Thompson also expects to arrive here to night or in the morning.

Miss Estlin is as good as ever - And that is as good as the good God could make. I wish she would spend no time on such as she is - & let the Victorias, Eugenies & other gold leaf butterflies, all crystallize up from moths & maggots. They deserve no better origin.

[I have just had the pleasure of reading in the escape of a slave from a Dorchester S.C. ship - He secreted himself on board, & kept hid till far out to sea. The Capt. had made all arrangements to send him right back - but we have robbed him of his prey - It was a providence almost, that we heard of him.]

You have much to pardon in the haste of this letter, but I dare trust to your goodness. If you print the pages proposed please let Mr. Garrison fill out my abbreviations, & make it as intelligible as possible - You don't know what Maledictis Mrs. Rossie howled at upon that meeting & she has written many letters already to Scotland & elsewhere, protesting against it.

With a friend & brother's love to you  
to Mrs. May I subscribe as ever - & I trust forever - Parker Pillsbury